

1. (twice amended) A method of verifying proper coupling of an implement assembly to a lift arm assembly by an operator who is located in a cab of a work machine, with (i) the work machine including the implement assembly and the lift arm assembly, (ii) the implement assembly including a hinge plate, (iii) the hinge plate having a first coupling aperture extending therethrough, (iv) the lift arm assembly having a lift arm and a cylinder, and (v) the cylinder being secured to the lift arm, comprising the steps of:

providing an implement coupler having (i) a first outside support plate, (ii) a second outside support plate spaced apart from the first outside support plate, (iii) a first inside support plate interposed the first and second outside support plates, (iv) a second inside support plate spaced apart from the first inside support plate and interposed the first and second outside support plates, (v) a center box section interposed the first and second inside support plates, and (vi) a rear box section interposed the first and second outside support plates;

positioning the cylinder within the rear box section;

advancing a hydraulic fluid into [a] the cylinder so as to move a pin from a first pin position to a second pin position, wherein (i) the pin is spaced apart from the first coupling aperture when the pin is located in the first pin position, and (ii) the pin extends through the first coupling aperture when the pin is located in the second pin position; and

viewing the pin when the pin is located in the second pin position by the operator from a position within the cab whereby proper coupling of the implement assembly to the lift arm assembly is verified by the operator without having to exit the cab.

7. (twice amended) A method of verifying proper coupling of an implement assembly to a lift arm assembly by an operator who is located in a cab of a work machine, with (i) the work machine including the implement assembly and the lift arm assembly, and (ii) the implement assembly having a first coupling aperture, comprising the steps of:

providing an implement coupler having (i) a first outside support plate, (ii) a second outside support plate spaced apart from the first outside support plate, (iii) a first inside support plate interposed the first and second outside support plates, (iv) a second inside support plate spaced apart from the first inside support plate and interposed the first and second outside support plates, (v) a center box section interposed the first and second inside support plates, and (vi) a rear box section interposed the first and second outside support plates;

positioning a cylinder within the rear box section;

advancing a hydraulic fluid into the cylinder so as to move a pin from a first pin position to a second pin position, wherein (i) the pin is spaced apart from the first coupling aperture when the pin is located in the first pin position, and (ii) the pin is positioned within the first coupling aperture when the pin is located in the second pin position; and

viewing the pin when the pin is located in the second pin position by the operator from a position within the cab whereby proper coupling of the implement assembly to the lift arm assembly is verified by the operator without having to exit the cab.

15. (twice amended) A work machine, comprising:
a cab in which an operator may be located;
an implement assembly having an implement and a
hinge plate secured thereto, wherein said hinge plate has
a first coupling aperture extending therethrough; [and]
a lift arm assembly having a lift arm [and a
cylinder secured thereto,];

an implement coupler having (i) a first outside
support plate, (ii) a second outside support plate spaced
apart from said first outside support plate, (iii) a
first inside support plate interposed said first and
second outside support plates, (iv) a second inside
support plate spaced apart from said first inside support
plate and interposed said first and second outside
support plates, (v) a center box section interposed said
first and second inside support plates, and (vi) a rear
box section interposed said first and second outside
support plates, said implement coupler being interposed
and secured to said lift arm assembly and said implement
assembly; and

a cylinder positioned within said rear box section,
wherein (i) said cylinder is operable to move a pin
between a first pin position and a second pin position in
response to advancement of a hydraulic fluid within said
cylinder, (ii) said pin is spaced apart from said
coupling aperture when said pin is located in said first
pin position, (iii) said pin extends through said
coupling aperture when said pin is located in said second
pin position, (iv) said pin is positioned within a field
of vision of said operator when (A) said pin is located
in said second pin position, and (B) said operator is
located within said cab.